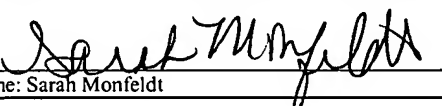


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KOMMA et al. Examiner: unknown
Serial No.: 10/716990 Group Art Unit: n/a
Filed: November 18, 2003 Docket: 10873.1356US01
Due Date: February 18, 2004
Title: OPTICAL ELEMENT, OPTICAL LENS, OPTICAL HEAD APPARATUS, OPTICAL
INFORMATION APPARATUS, COMPUTER, OPTICAL INFORMATION MEDIUM
PLAYER, CAR NAVIGATION SYSTEM, OPTICAL INFORMATION MEDIUM
RECORDER, AND OPTICAL INFORMATION MEDIUM SERVER

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 13, 2004.

By: 
Name: Sarah Monfeldt

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

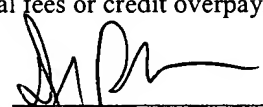
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Certified copy of a Japanese application, Serial No. 2002-340589, filed November 25, 2002, the right of priority of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 11 Reference(s)
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: 
Name: Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300
D. Mueller:mmm

S/N 10/716990

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	KOMMA et al.	Examiner:	unknown
Serial No.:	10/716990	Group Art Unit:	n/a
Filed:	November 18, 2003	Docket No.:	10873.1356US01
Title:	OPTICAL ELEMENT, OPTICAL LENS, OPTICAL HEAD APPARATUS, OPTICAL INFORMATION APPARATUS, COMPUTER, OPTICAL INFORMATION MEDIUM PLAYER, CAR NAVIGATION SYSTEM, OPTICAL INFORMATION MEDIUM RECORDER, AND OPTICAL INFORMATION MEDIUM SERVER		

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By: 

Name: Sarah Monfeldt

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

US 6,201,780 is an English equivalent of JP 10-334504.

US 6,442,124 is an English equivalent of JP 11-296890.

US 6,118,594 is an English equivalent of JP 2000-081566.

US 5,446,565 is an English equivalent of JP 7-098431.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

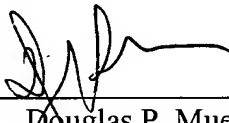


Dated: January 13, 2004

DPM:mmm

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

By 

Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

FORM 1449*

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number:

10873.1356US01

Application Number:

10/716990

Applicant: KOMMA et al.

Filing Date: November 18,
2003

Group Art Unit: n/a

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US 6,201,780	March 2001	KATAYAMA			
	US 6,442,124	Aug. 2002	CHUNG et al.			
	US 6,118,594	Sept. 2000	MARUYAMA			
	US 5,446,565	Aug. 1995	KOMMA et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	JP 2002-237078	Aug. 2002	JAPAN			Abstract	
	JP 10-334504	Dec. 1998	JAPAN			Abstract	
	JP 11-296890	Oct. 1999	JAPAN			Abstract	
	JP 11-339307	Dec. 1999	JAPAN			Abstract	
	JP 2000-081566	March 2000	JAPAN			Abstract	
	JP 7-098431	April 1995	JAPAN			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	KATAYAMA, R. et al., "BLUE/DVD/DC Compatible Optical Head With Three Wavelengths and a Wavelength Selective Filter", <i>ISOM 2001 Technical Digest Session We-30-05</i> , p. 30-31.

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.